



For Immediate Release

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## **"BINGO FOR BENCHES" IN MILLER SLATED FOR JAN. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

On Saturday, January 19, 2019, the Miller Garden Club will hold their first ***Bingo for Benches*** fundraiser from 6 pm – 9:30 pm at the Marquette Park Aquatorium, 6918 Oak Ave., Gary, IN 46403. According to new club president Elizabeth Wallish, "There will be wine, cheese, prizes, laughs and lots of winners. We will begin at 6 pm and enjoy a half-hour of refreshments before getting serious about all things BINGO! This is a family-friendly evening of fun 'n games!" Admission will be \$20.00. Tickets can be purchased in advance through Eventbrite, via the Miller Garden Club Facebook page.

The year's first fundraising event is being held to collect funds for placement of memorial park benches in and around Marquette Park. The required concrete slabs for five benches have been ordered and paid for with club monies; designated locations have been chosen within the park and the slabs will be poured next spring. Additional funds are necessary for the purchase of benches and name plates.

The benches will commemorate and honor the following Miller Garden Club officers: Bob McAllister, President in 2004; he and his partner, Fred Rendina, were on the very first Garden Walk in 2000; Pete Riffle, Vice President, and his wife Carol were responsible for the famous Riffle Farm; Debbie Doerr, Secretary, initiated the club's entry into Social Media by establishing our Facebook page; Bernie Bonk, Treasurer, was the creator of the annual October Brats & Bulbs event and started the South Shore station gardens; Tom Eaton, Secretary, showcased his garden on the Annual Garden Walk three times. The Miller Garden Club is grateful for these members' efforts and hard work over the past twenty years – their dedication and persistence has resulted in the success the club enjoys today. The benches will be lasting memorials to these individuals and will offer visitors to the park a place to sit and rest and take in the view.

The Miller Garden Club meets the third Saturday of the month from March through October from 10 am until 11:30 am. The general meetings are open to the public and feature speakers of interest on subjects ranging from gardening to ecology to stewardship of our natural resources. Refreshments are served.

The Club's mission is to provide gardening education on all levels; to protect native trees, plants and wildlife; and to beautify the Miller Beach Community in Gary, IN. The club was founded in 1998 and is a 501©3 organization. The club members work tirelessly tending to gardens along the Lake Street Business district, the South Shore train station, the library, the Aquatorium and many, many other locations.

For further information: [millergardenclub.org](http://millergardenclub.org) or Facebook.